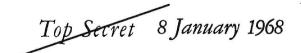


The President's Daily Brief



3.5(c)

DAILY BRIEF 8 JANUARY 1968

1. North Vietnam

The two suspected coastal defense missile sites south of Thanh Hoa were struck repeatedly by US aircraft on 5 and 6 January. There is no firm evidence from photography or pilot reports, however, that either site was occupied at the time of the attacks.

2. South Vietnam

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at a meeting with President Thieu and some of the senior generals on 5 January, it was decided not to accept General Thang's resignation as chief of the Revolutionary Development cadres and the Regional and Popular Forces. Instead the reasons for his discontent would be investigated.

Thang has charged privately that the Revolutionary Development program is lagging because of foot-dragging by the corps commanders. Their attempts to hang on to political power and patronage are said to be causing Thieu to delay reorganization of the armed forces and provincial administrative reforms.

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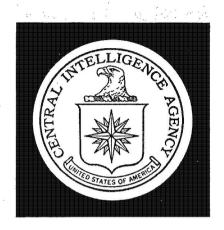




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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam

Top Secret

3.5(c)

8 January 1968

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam for the President's Eyes Only

8 January 1968

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French Views on Hanoi's Negotiating Postiene Manac'h, the Director of Asian Affaithe French Foreign Ministry, told an embassy n Paris Saturday that Mai Van Bo, Hanoi's rative in Paris, had confirmed to him on 3 Jahe "official nature" of Trinh's statement. laimed Bo intended this confirmation to be o US authorities. Manac'h went on to say trinh statement in no way changes the French ent's understanding of Hanoi's position; Pageady knew that Hanoi was ready to enter intendenting were halted unconditionally.	rs for officer epresen- anuary Manac'h passed hat the govern- ris al-

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on the living and working conditions of the North Vietnamese people continue to come in

The most recent add to the growing body of evidence that Hanoi has engaged in an extensive relocation of industry, particularly in the heavily bombed areas of the southern prov-

One report gives details of the organization of civilian bomb damage crews. The peacetime regulation that each adult donate 25 days of labor to state projects each year was broadened in 1965 to a requirement that all adults under 45 respond to unlimited calls for work anywhere for any length of time. Only after the first 25 days of such duty does the state begin to supply the workers' food.

A medical technician who worked in a hospital in the northwestern part of the country for ten years reports that the young Vietnamese-educated 3.3(h)(2)

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medical doctors are not nearly as well trained as the older French-educated ones in his hospital. He also reports that political considerations severely hampered the administration of his hospital.

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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

There is nothing of significance to report.